

**UNMARKED AMENDED SPECIFICATION****IN THE SPECIFICATION**

Please amend page 2, paragraph 2 as follows:

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*AI  
concl.*

In US patent application 08/790,155, filed January 28, 1997 now U.S. Patent No. 5923660 which issued on July 13, 1999, and incorporated herein by reference, in order to optimize through-put time, communication between SECs attempts to utilize the bus as little as possible so that the bus will be available as soon as a SEC wants to utilize it. Therefore, each SEC includes a write-only bus communication unit which transfers the packets out of the SEC by only writing to the bus. Thus, packets enter each SEC by having been written therein from other SECs and not by reading them in, since read operations utilize the bus for significant amounts of time compared to write operations. Having the bus available generally whenever a SEC needs it helps to provide the full-wire throughput.

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